

NORTHANTS Herald & Post

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**MERRY CHRISTMAS TO
OUR READERS AND
ADVERTISERS - CHECK
OUR WEBSITE FOR THE
LATEST NEWS 24/7**



RED HOT: an iconic Northampton restaurant burned down, and investigators have discovered the cause, see p5

Is weight a big issue?

Wellingborough is among the most obese towns in England, a report has revealed.

Carried out by the Public Health Action Support Team for Northamptonshire County Council, the report says that 26.9 per cent of people in the town are obese.

It also found that almost one in 10 children in Northamptonshire is obese when they start school, and nearly a quarter are obese or overweight.

Conservative MP for Wellingborough, Peter Bone, said: "Well I have to say I am very surprised, this is something I haven't noticed. "I have never heard of it from any health professional at all.

"Walking around the Swansgate shopping centre you just don't get that impression. We are no better or worse than anywhere else in the country - it is an interesting report."

County stays on storm watch

BY NICHOLAS BIEBER
nicholas.bieber@hpnorthants.co.uk

County weather watchers are bracing themselves for the second violent storm in a week.

It is hoped the worst of the weather will pass to the west but emergency services are monitoring the situation.

This follows 80mph winds which

lashed the county at the start of the week.

Three people have died so far in the UK as a result of the severe weather which has disrupted travel.

The winds brought down a huge tree on Northampton Racecourse.

We will be monitoring the progress of the storm on our live #HPstormwatch feed on our website.



How about a doggy hair-do?

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PAGE 3

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#snapjustice



Email pictures to: news@HPnorthants.co.uk

#Snapjustice is proving a popular feature in the paper and on the website.

This picture was taken by a reader at Sainsbury's in the Weedon Road in Northampton who described this as 'inconsiderate' parking.

As part of the *Herald & Post's* #snapjustice campaign readers are being asked to send in pictures of bad

Pictures used anonymously

parking and other gripes which might bother you. Does an annoying neighbour always block you in? Is late-night flytipping getting you down?

If you are frustrated by inconsiderate behaviour then take a picture of it on your phone and tweet it to us @NorthamptonUK using #snapjustice or email news@hpnorthants.co.uk

text 2 text

What song makes you cry?

I like big butts! makes me cry with laughter

What is your most treasured memento?

A picture of a footprint my son when he was three months old

What is your favourite sandwich?

Egg, mayonnaise and cress

What is your favourite spot in the world?

My bed



What three words best describe you?

Big, black and beautiful

What song uplifts your spirits?

Gimme Hope Jo'anna

What is your favourite noise?

My son sleeping and laughing

What is one thing you must have to make Christmas special?

A party

Editor's Letter



What a year it has been in the editor's chair at the H&P

It's my first Christmas as editor of the Herald and Post and what a year it has been for Northamptonshire.

Take a look at page five and our Top Five collection of stories for the year reflects on some of the momentous events that have been taking place in the county.

It must have been one of the most successful years ever for Northampton's sporting teams.

Northants CC won promotion and the T20 cricket championship.

The Saints made it to Twickenham for the Aviva Premiership Final and The Cobblers got the play-off final at Wembley.

Sadly the trips to London ended in two defeats, although having attended both games I came away from each of them with a very different feeling.

There are defeats and there are defeats — both teams brought in a raft of new signings in the summer but while the Saints have been able to use the end of season drama as a springboard, Cobblers have not had the same luck. Not on the field at least.

Off-the-field plans for upgrading the

The whole world wishes it had the Northampton Clown

Sixfields stadium have started to move forward (as they have for the Saints stadium) and in the county as a whole a lot of major development work is underway.

The Waterside enterprise zone will see the university moving down to the banks of the Nene and acres of land opened up for business development.

We will soon have a new railway station and bus station and even the Grosvenor Centre is due for a spruce up.

Northampton's Cultural Quarter is starting to thrive and the Alive festival — which saw Modgod Paul Weller playing in the town — will happen again next summer.

Oh, and of course the whole world wishes it had the Northampton Clown.

Your Herald and Post will be a little different from now on, one paper for the county and a website getting bigger and better all the time giving us the largest audience in the area.

Great times, interesting times. All the very best for the New Year neighbours!

Steve Scoles

Now you can stay in touch via Facebook, Twitter or email:



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NEWS IN BRIEF

Successful raid

Police have recovered in excess of £65,000 worth of suspected stolen mechanical and electrical equipment at a property in Northampton over the weekend.

One man was taken into custody in connection.

'Healthy' state

The Northamptonshire economy is in a "healthy" state with trade up since the recession, according to a county business survey.

The poll of 71 firms was carried out by county networking group NN coNnect.

Uni landlords

Landlords in Northampton are being urged to attend a meeting on Monday, January 6, to discuss the University of Northampton's move to relocate its current student housing to a new £330 million campus in the town centre.

Male flasher

A seven-year-old girl and her two-year-old brother were approached by a man on Saturday who exposed himself to them and attempted to touch the girl.

The incident took place in Sidebrook Court, Thorplands.

Beautiful south

South Northamptonshire is the third best place to live in the UK, according to a new survey.

The study was carried out by the Halifax Building Society, which also says it's the best place to live in East Midlands.

Geisha gonna be a superstar

BY LAWRENCE JOHN

lawrence.john@hpnorthants.co.uk

Rushden dog groomer, Su Eld-Weaver is the star of a one off documentary on Channel 4 on Monday at 9pm.

Su is the first Brit to beat the Americans in their own backyard in the world's largest grooming event in Hershey, Pennsylvania.

It proved third time lucky for Su as in her previous two attempts she came fourth and second before scooping this prize.

She said: "The design (Geishia) was the hardest design I have come up with and this was my only chance to make it work."

"I had two and a half hours to complete this design."

"It was amazing to win and even now it feels like a dream."

"I have set my goals and these include defending my title, getting on the



GROOMED: Su Eld-Weaver with her poodle, Dobby

front cover of Groomer to Groomer and on the front of People's Choice magazine in the USA.

"I have seen the programme but I have no intention of watching it again."

"When people see creative grooming but five-year-old Dobb loves it."

"The whole process

takes 3-4 hours over a period of four to five weeks.

"She is so happy when it happens and when the colours return she is a bit of a diva."

"The designs take more than six months to plan."

Show us your pets
Go to www.northampton-news-hp.co.uk

Selection box appeal a big success

The Herald & Post would like to thank everyone who contributed to our Christmas Selection Box appeal.

Earlier this month, we kicked off the appeal by asking the public to pop over to our office to place their selection boxes under our Christmas tree, ready to donate KidzAid.

The charity works to help

traumatised children overcome their experiences.

We are pleased to announce it was a success and editor Steve Scoles was able to hand over more than a hundred boxes to Tessa-Jane Taylor from KidsAid.

Steve said: "It's been a fantastic response. It's great to do something for the children at Christmas."



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Christmas with the air ambulance crew

Like all the emergency services the air ambulance will be on standby over the festive season, ready to go into action if needed...



The crew from Warwickshire & Northamptonshire Air Ambulance (WNAA), and Derbyshire, Leicestershire & Rutland Air Ambulance (DLRAA) will be operating every day over Christmas, including Christmas Day.

As over three million people across the counties settle down for their Christmas dinner and spend time with their family, both teams will be flying or on standby, ready to provide lifesaving medical care to those who need it most.

With more and more people out and about, coupled with the deteriorating road and weather conditions, the risk of being hurt and requiring medical attention is significantly increased.

Tracy Grunwell, Head of Fundraising for The Air Ambulance Service, said: "As a Charity, we obviously hope that people do stay safe out there and never require our services. But at least they can take comfort in the fact that we can be there to help them, even on

Christmas Day.

"We are fully staffed over the Christmas period, with the majority of our doctors and paramedics working on or around Christmas Day. We will be available for most kinds of emergency rescues that can happen at this time of year, including road traffic collisions, serious sporting injuries, medical conditions, falls and any other kind of emergency that requires rapid response."

The Charity receives no Government funding and relies entirely on public donation to keep its helicopters flying and saving lives.

As a Charity, believe their patients should be able to reach specialist treatment no matter where their incident happens.

The sooner they reach the most relevant hospital for their injuries the greater their chance of survival and recovery.

Their state-of-the-art Agusta Westland helicopters are capable of reaching speeds of up to 200mph. They can fly in most weather conditions and land in most places, including areas that are not easily accessible by land.

As part of the Charity's Christmas campaign, which focuses on keeping families together, a Northampton man has come forward to share his story about being rescued by WNAA.

Phil Berrie from Wellingborough was involved in a serious motorcycle accident earlier this year. He has

since recovered from his injuries and his family have moved closer to be with him and will be celebrating Christmas with him this year.

To read more about Phil's story

and make a donation to The Air Ambulance Service please go to: <http://www.theairambulanceservice.org.uk/donate/the-christmas-times>

HATS OFF: The air ambulance will be ready to fly over the festive season

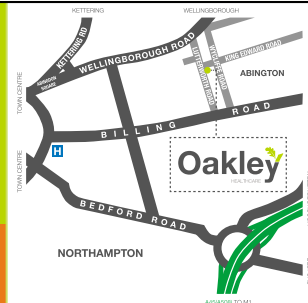


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Top 5

News stories of 2013 in Northampton

Here are the top five news stories of 2013 in Northampton compiled by Nicholas Bieber

1

Northampton Clown - By far our most popular story of 2013, this story has attracted over half a million visitors worldwide. On Friday, September 13, the clown started randomly appearing around town in full costume. He is still out there today...



2

Sporting highs and lows - Highs: Steelbacks promoted to Division One and won T20 cup. Saints in Aviva Premiership Final and Cobblers in the L2 play-off final. Lows: Cobblers and Saints lost in their finals. Aidy Boothroyd goes. Graeme Swann retires.



3

Famous faces visiting our town - This year saw a host of famous people in the county, such as Madness, Paul Weller, David Cameron, Prince Charles, Nick Grimshaw and John Challis aka Boycie from Only Fools.



4

Town centre developments - This year has seen a whole host of developments such as the new railway station, which will open in 2014, and bus station, open in March 2014, and the university campus, due to open in autumn 2018.



5

Red Hot restaurant burns to the ground - Horrifying images of the Red Hot World Buffet restaurant in Sixfields up in flames this month shook the town as they saw a popular restaurant burn to the ground.



Cause of Red Hot blaze discovered

NICHOLAS BIEBER
nicholas.bieber@hpnorthants.co.uk

An electrical fault in the ceiling was the cause of the fire which destroyed the Red Hot World Buffet restaurant in Sixfields.

Following a fire investigation into the cause of the fire at the restaurant, which started shortly before at 11pm on Wednesday, it was concluded as accidental.

The flames ripped through the building as onlookers saw the dramatic scenes unfold, while at least 60 firefighters tried to battle the blaze.

It was finally extinguished on Thursday morning.

A spokesperson for Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service said: "The conclusion of the fire investigation report is that the cause was accidental as a result of an electrical fault in the roof void above the male toilets."

The fire affected hundreds of people in the area as neighbouring buildings were evacuated during the blaze.

CineWorld, McDonalds and the

bowling alley at Sixfields had to ask their customers to leave as a cordon was thrown around the site of the fire.

A ruptured gas main was still alight on Thursday morning and traffic was being diverted away from the area. Gas engineers isolated the leak.

Sixfields is built on an old landfill site and is covered with vents designed to allow gas escape from the decaying refuse underground.

See pictures online
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Holidays are here



Coca-Cola truck pulls up in town

Hundreds queued to get their picture taken with the Coca-Cola Christmas lorry when it visited Northampton last week. It has been touring the country giving out free mini-cans of Coke and charging people £5 to have their picture taken with the truck which features in Coca-Cola's festive advertising.

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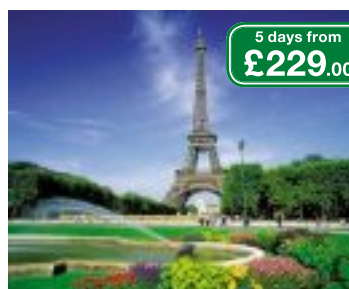
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NEWS IN BRIEF

Post office plan

The Post Office is proposing to move Irthlingborough Park Post Office from its current location to next door at 12 High Street.

It is to create a modern branch with extended opening hours for customers.

Epilepsy book

A young Northampton girl who has epilepsy has written and illustrated her first book.

Katherine Curtis, 12, created the children's book 'Herbie the Horse Goes on Holiday', and 10 per cent of proceeds will go to Epilepsy Action.

Clearing away

Scaffolding at the fire-damaged Angel Hotel in Bridge Street is to be cleared from the carriageway early in the new year.

The scaffolding has been in place since the building was gutted in a blaze in 2012.

Swann retires

England spin bowler Graeme Swann has announced his immediate retirement from international cricket.

Swann, a former pupil of Spionne School in Towcester, took seven wickets in the last Ashes test in Adelaide.

Gold ring found

A wedding ring has been handed in at Campbell Square police station.

The ring, found near Portland Place, is a gold band with an engraving on the inside which reads: Nadupol 22.12.01.

Bright future

A singer from Corby has a bright future after reaching the final of a national singing competition.

Hayley Blanchett, 26, walked away with a £500 prize after being announced as a finalist in the 'Horse Factor 2013'.

Fatal car crash

A 40-year-old woman has died following a fatal car crash in Yardley Hastings.

It happened on the B5388 Yardley Hastings to Olney Road, when a Mercedes collided with a Vauxhall which the woman was a passenger in.

Hit and run

A 56-year-old pedestrian who was hit by a car while crossing the Wellingborough Road has had an operation after the incident left the victim's leg broken in two places.

The hit and run took place on Wednesday at 7.45pm.



OUT ON THE TOWN: Brian Ely with two fellow street pastors in Wellingborough

My favourite festive stories

RT REV JOHN HOLBROOK
Bishop of Brixworth

I recently spent a night with a team of Street Pastors, who are Christian volunteers who help people in trouble.

They do a great job. While I was there, I realised how beautiful our town centres look at night, decorated for Christmas with many Christmas trees and sparkling lights.

But did you know there is a diocesan link to the origin of Christmas trees?

In one of our Peterborough diocesan churches (the one at Brixworth) there is a small fragment of St Boniface, an Englishman who centuries ago gave his life spreading the good news about Jesus through Germany. One day, he came across some people who were about to sacrifice a young child

under an old oak tree.

He rescued the child by cutting down the oak tree. In its shadow he found a small evergreen fir tree which he saw as a symbol of God's new life – his loving help – offered by Jesus all year round. That's how the tradition of Christmas trees started in Germany; much later it was introduced to this country by Queen Victoria's German husband, Prince Albert.

My other favourite Christmas story, probably only a beautiful legend, explains why we decorate our trees with tinsel. When Mary, Joseph and the infant Jesus were running away from King Herod's murderous soldiers, they hid in a cave. At the mouth of the cave was a spider who realised that Jesus was somehow special and wanted to help the fugitives. "I know what to do," he thought, "I'll spin my web across the

entrance to keep them warm".

In the morning, Herod's soldiers arrived on their dreadful mission. They were about to search the cave when one of them spotted the early morning sunshine sparkling on the web. He said that there couldn't be anybody in there because they would have broken the web, so they left the cave undisturbed and the holy family survived.

It is said that we put tinsel on our trees to remember that spider's web sparkling in the early light. So as you look at the Christmas trees, reflect on God's promise of fresh hope and strength. And as you hang up your tinsel, you might remember that spider and all those who are in need this Christmas, and above all remember Jesus.

I hope you have a very happy and peace-filled Christmas and New Year.

War medals stolen in callous attack

War medals belonging to a 90-year-old woman's late husband and father have been stolen in a sickening attack where she was threatened with a knife.

The robbery happened between 8.30am and 9.00am on Sunday in Debdale Road, Northampton, when a masked man entered the house and after threatening the victim stole her treasured WW1 medals, left to her by her late father. Also stolen was a WW2 'Burma Star' awarded to her late husband and engraved with the name 'Charles Durant'.

The offender is described as being a white man, around 6ft tall and with a slim build.



He was between 24 – 26 years of age, wearing black clothing, a dark coloured face covering and possibly gloves.

Detective Inspector Ally White, from the Criminal Investigations Department, said: "This really is a horrible incident.

"Not only is the victim

elderly, but the callous offender has attacked her in her own home, at Christmas, and stolen things that have immense sentimental value to her.

"We are doing everything we can to catch the person responsible and re-unite the victim with her treasured medals.

"We really need the public to help by telling us if they have any information or have been approached by someone trying to sell any of the stolen items.

"Crimestoppers are offering a reward of up-to £2,000 for information that leads to the successful arrest and conviction of the person(s) responsible."

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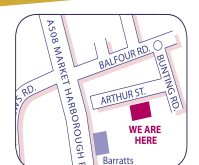
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Richard
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the poster
released with
the domestic
violence and
alcohol misuse
campaign

Plans to tackle domestic abuse

BY LAWRENCE JOHN
lawrence.john@hpnorthants.co.uk

A new campaign to tackle domestic abuse around Christmas and the New Year and been launched in the county.

Northamptonshire Police is speaking up for these silent victims of alcohol misuse and abuse.

The campaign will focus will be on three strands:

- the hidden affect parental alcohol abuse has on children
- the link between alcohol and violent crime
- the fact children are present in 90 per cent of domestic abuse incidents.

The aim of the campaign which will run until January 6 is the reduce violent crime over the Christmas period by challenging and changing peoples' behaviour.

Detective Inspector Richard Tompkins who manages the Domestic Violence Unit for Northamptonshire Police is one of the people leading this venture.

He said: "Domestic abuse happens throughout the year and we do not want people suffering in silence.

"But at Christmas alcohol is involved.

"Our role is to prosecute people but the primary aim is to safeguard the victims and this is being done through the agencies we are working with.

"What we want is to high-

FACTBOX

■ - Northamptonshire Police deal with 12,500 domestic abuse cases per year.

■ - 90 per cent of children are present during domestic abuse incidents.

■ 75 per cent of all domestic abuse cases are never reported.

■ Two thirds of all cases are judged to be arguments between partners or between husband and wives.

■ one third of domestic abuse incidents in the county are alcohol related

light that there is the strong link between violence and abuse.

"That is not to say all alcohol is abuse and we know alcohol has its place in people's lives.

"It can however lead to a problem.

"We estimate half all violent crime is carried out under the influence of alcohol.

"Everyday we seen the first hand experience and devastating effect domestic violence has on people's lives.

"This however does seem a prevalent time of the year to highlight the issue and to say that alcohol and violence do spill over into domestic violence.

"We want to highlight this to people and raise awareness of the other agencies such as health, Social Services who are working with.

"It is a case of highlighting what assistance is out there for people.

"A lot of those who suffer domestic abuse suffer in silence."

DI Tompkins said as well as working with health agencies and social services, the police had close links with the Sunflower Centre, Womens Aid and Nene Valley Family Christian Refuge Centre.

He said: "The police's aim is to protect life and limb.

"We deal with 12,500 cases of domestic abuse in the county per year.

"75 per cent of domestic abuse cases are never reported.

"A third of these are crime related but two thirds are classified as arguments or abusive txts.

"Reporting an incident to the police does not mean prosecution.

"These only take what we call an intervention or have a word in someone's ear.

This can help but if the problem persists then the police will take further action and this could lead to a prosecution."

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MUSTHAVE

PC football

Aiden Simington has started out on a great experiment — to play Football Manager 2014 as the Virtual Cobblers boss alongside the real season for Northampton Town. So the game is his Must Have. He is blogging about his experiences on our website but it's going to mean spending an unhealthy amount of time with a PC game that is notorious for eating up hours of its players lives. His first post is on our website now.



Tagtalk

A collection of popular hashtags in Northampton on Twitter every week.
This week we used #redhot

David Mackintosh

Thankfully nobody seems to have been injured in Red Hot fire last night at Sixfields but my thoughts are with the owners and staff affected.

Northampton Town @ntfc

Very sorry to learn of fire at Red Hot World Buffet last night. Pleased no one hurt but thoughts with staff

Dominic Stott @Domstott

Just driven past and red hot is still as the name suggests! Hopefully no one hurt

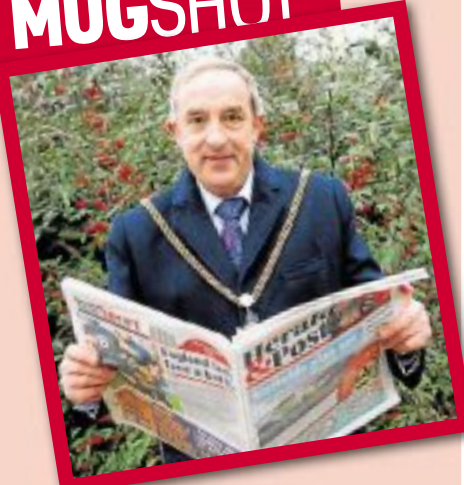
tanya smith @tanyal993x

Was planning on going red hot for a meal on Friday but don't look like that will be happening as it's on fire!!

twitter

**Herald
& Post**

MUGSHOT



Northampton Mayor Les Marriott gets stuck into the Herald and Post proving that there is something in the H&P for even the grandest citizens. If you grab a copy of the paper and get your picture taken with it we will feature you in this spot. It could be a snap taken on holiday or with your team at work or even down the pub with your mates. Email us at letters@hpnorthants.co.uk

Your Herald & Post Letters



Don't be fooled by the rush to make money

My parents once invited my maiden aunt for Christmas: thereafter she invited herself for subsequent Christmases. Half way through Boxing Day she would announce that Christmas was over for another year.

Nowadays, before Summer is over, some shops are starting to display Christmas goods. Come October, shops are full of Halloween displays which vanish once it is November and the

Christmas season starts in earnest. In December I was handing out tracts and seeing the various expressions. A significant number of people were too busy 'doing' Christmas to enjoy it. People in Northampton spend well over a quarter of a year preparing for and 'doing' Christmas which by now is over for another year.

So what is it all about? Yuletide: has been celebrated at this time for millennia when we look forward to the days lengthening again. This has little relevance to starting four months beforehand when we still have warm-days and why is Halloween caught up in it?

The Mammon Corporation wants to part Jo Public from their money. So many are mesmerised into 'doing' Christmas in the belief they are celebrating', enjoying themselves or showing love to those around them.

Of course God wants us to celebrate, but too by now reality betrays another story – hangovers, debt, wrecked marriages, broken toys. Christmas is over for another year but for what?

We have been sold a fast one. We may recognise the miracle of the Incarnation and enjoy celebrating the midwinter solstice but most of it is about pouring huge sums into the coffers of those who already have vast wealth.

We could go onto the now highly commercialised sales and the artificial attachment of the Nativity to Yuletide. Perhaps we should simply remember that people are more important than money and give a thought for those who get left at this time: the lonely, destitute, recently-bereaved/divorced and homeless.

Colin Bricher, Northampton

pay rise package is unsupportable, because, amongst other things, it will cost the public purse £4.6 million. This is untrue. The Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority report on MPs' Pay and Pensions (<http://bit.ly/19AIZCz> page 6, paragraph 7) states that the package will cost the public purse nothing, because the 11% pay rise will be paid for by cuts in other benefits, and an increase in MPs' pension contributions.

Mr Ellis also neglects to discuss the cuts, because in reality, MPs do not want their benefits to change. Unlike his impoverished constituents, who suffer when their benefit is cut because they have too many bedrooms in a house that they can't swap (aka "bedroom tax"), Parliament wants to keep its perks.

I look forward to seeing a retraction printed by Mr Ellis, and a fuller, more accurate explanation of the package on offer by the Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority.

Nick Bewley Northampton

One of the best pantos I have ever seen

Every Christmas I at some point go and see a pantomime, must have seen 80 so far, some good some indifferent some poor. Last night with my wife and granddaughters and the rest of Duston Girls Brigade we attended Sleeping Beauty at the Derngate which combines tradition, slapstick, magic with truly amazing 3D technology and in doing so produced the best pantomime we have ever seen. Beg borrow or steal a child and take it to see this fabulous production that brought the house down, and gave genuine riotous pleasure to all there. Never seen a cast work so hard, in any production.

john wright
jwrightbcs@aol.com

Send your letters to

Herald & Post

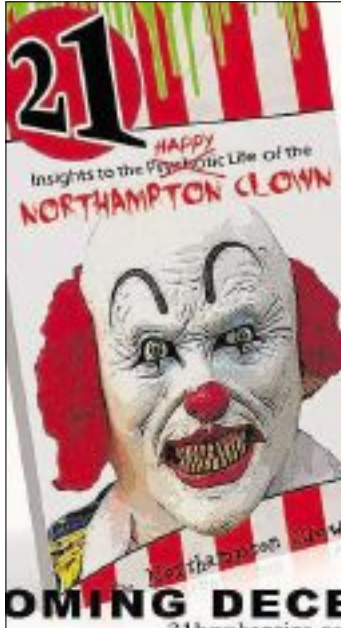
4 Waterside Way, The Lakes,
Northampton NN4 7XD
or email letters@HPnorthants.co.uk

MPs pay rise is not as clear cut as it seems

I read with interest your article "Northampton North MP Michael Ellis slams plans to award MPs an 11% pay rise as 'wholly inappropriate'" (Online edition 11/12/13: <http://bit.ly/1dXpaos>).

In it, Mr Ellis states that the MPs'

Clown releases a book of 'insights'



CLOWNTOWN: The Northampton Clown is bringing out a book this week

NICHOLAS BIEBER
nicholas.bieber@hpnorthants.co.uk

The Northampton Clown has announced that he has made a new book, called '21 insights into the happy life of the Northampton Clown'.

This message came after the clown appeared outside the Carlsberg Brewery in Northampton.

He was due to appear again on Christmas Eve giving a clue that appeared to be an anagram of the words Saints Stadium.

The post read: "Merry Christmas!! I'll be seeing you all around Christmas Eve... Keep those eyes peeled!"

"For those interested, I have made a book!"

"Very exciting stuff! It could be a late Christmas Present..."

<http://21bookseries.com/northampton-clown/> See you about Christmas Eve!
"Clue:= Aim, Stain, Studs..."

On the website which sells this book, it explains what the book is about: "Take an amazing look inside the Happy life of the Northampton clown! If you can find him, he will sign your book!"

"Everybody wants to know what's inside the mind of the Northampton Clown. Finally, he has found the bright spot in his heart and has written his thoughts and stories."

"It is all contained in 21 horrific and terrifying chapters... from the moment he was born to the drama surrounding his current day appearances."

"The much anticipated world-wide release is Friday,

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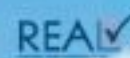
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What does the Supreme Court Judgment in *Prest v Petrodel Resources Limited* and Others mean to you?

The Supreme Court delivered its judgment in *Prest v Petrodel Resources Limited* and Others ("Prest") on Wednesday 12 June 2013.

At the heart of the case was the question of how far the family courts could make orders against assets in company structures by using Family Law to achieve this, despite existing rules of Company Law.

The Husband held a number of valuable property assets within company structures, which were being used as a way to try and defeat the Wife's financial claims arising from their Divorce.

In essence the Supreme Court has answered this question by saying there is a single set of laws which apply whether in a Company or Family Law jurisdiction. Despite this the Supreme Court was able to distinguish this case on its facts to find that the Husband was entitled to the properties within the company structures and so they could be made the subject of financial orders in favour of the Wife.

Due to very specific circumstances of this case, it is by no means an open door through which to attack company structures in order to bring business assets into a matrimonial settlement. However it is clear the Family Courts have at their disposal a very wide range of powers to ensure there is a fair sharing of assets, as part of a Divorce or Dissolution of a Civil Partnership.

If you have any concerns about assets held in a company structure and how these will be treated in the event your relationship should breakdown, then please do not hesitate to contact one of our family law specialists.

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If you need to talk

REBEKKA HAMMERSLEY
news@hpnorthants.co.uk

Northampton Samaritans on St Michael's Avenue has been preparing for a busy time this Christmas. The national helpline was expecting to answer 15,000 calls a day from people in the UK and ROI over the festive period.

The Northampton Samaritans answered over 38,500 calls for help last year. The 85 listening volunteers from the 110 volunteer strong branch will be on duty answering calls round the clock from people struggling to cope this Christmas.

This Christmas will be the 35th year that retired couple Julia and Gerald have spent volunteering for Northampton Samaritans. The pair have four children; Elizabeth 35, Geoffrey, 33, Richard 32 and Mary 30.

Gerald and Julia said: "When we started volunteering 35 years ago, we wanted to be there for those people suffering distressing feelings, and who find themselves unable to cope. We have been volunteering for Samaritans since our first year of married life and it is a part of what we do as a shared interest.



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"We have wonderful family and friends, but have always been aware of the pressures on people who have no one to share their innermost feelings with. This made us realise that maybe we could be there for them at times like these.

"This time of year can increase feelings of loneliness, people may be in 'strained' family situations, may have overspent, they might have all the usual

issues plus many more.

"For most of the shift, we are very busy answering calls, emails and texts, and it is a privilege to be there for people who are in need of emotional support.

Those precious few hours of being there for others is almost our way of trying to make their day a little less unhappy. After our shift, we go back to our family, we have a meal and good times." When asked what they

vue

Scott Northampton
(01604) 239420
Friday, 27 December 2013 - Thursday, 02 January 2014

47 Ronin - 119 min (12A)
Daily except Wed, Thurs: 13:45, 19:00.
Wed, Thurs: 13:45, 19:00, 21:50

American Hustle - 138 min (15)
Wed, Thurs: 17:30, 20:45

Frozen - 108 min (PG)
Daily: 11:30, 14:20, 17:05, 19:45

Mary Poppins - 134 min (U)
Daily: 11:00

Paranormal Activity: The Marked Ones - 84 min (15)
Wed: 18:15, 20:30, 22:50.
Thurs: 15:25, 18:15, 20:30, 22:50

The Harry Hill Movie - 88 min (PG)
Fri, Sat, Sun: 10:15, 12:30, 15:00, 17:30, 20:00.

Sun, Mon: 10:15, 12:30, 15:00, 17:15, 19:40.
Wed, Thurs: 10:15, 12:30, 15:00

The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D - 161 min (12A)
Daily except Sun, Tues: 10:45, 14:30, 18:00, 21:30.

Sun: 12:15, 16:00, 19:45.
Tues: 10:45, 14:30, 18:00

The Secret Life of Walter Mitty - 114 min (PG)
Fri, Sat: 14:10, 17:15, 18:15, 20:15, 21:15, 22:30, 23:00.

Sun, Mon: 14:10, 17:15, 18:15, 20:15, 21:15, 22:00.

Tues: 14:10, 17:05, 18:00, 20:00, 20:45.
Wed, Thurs: 14:10, 17:15, 18:15, 20:00, 21:00, 22:40

Walking with Dinosaurs 3D - 87 min (U)
Fri, Sat, Sun, Mon: 11:45, 14:00, 19:30.

Tues: 10:15, 12:30, 18:15.
Wed, Thurs: 10:15, 12:30

47 Ronin 3D - 119 min (12A)
Fri, Sat, Sun, Mon: 16:30, 21:45.

Tues: 15:00, 20:30.
Wed, Thurs: 15:00

Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues - 119 min (15)

Fri, Sat: 12:00, 14:45, 17:50, 20:45, 21:50, 22:30.

Sun, Mon: 12:00, 14:45, 17:50, 20:45, 21:50.
Tues: 12:00, 14:45, 17:50, 20:45.

Wed, Thurs: 12:00, 14:45, 17:50, 20:45, 22:30

Justin Bieber's Believe - 92 min (PG)
Daily except Thurs: 13:00, 15:20

Moshi Monsters - 81 min (U)
Daily: 10:30, 13:30, 15:45

Rise of the Guardians - 97 min (PG)
Daily: 10:00

The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug - 161 min (12A)

Daily except Sun: 12:15, 16:00, 19:45.

Sun: 10:45, 14:30, 18:00, 21:30

The Hunger Games: Catching Fire - 146 min (12A)

Fri, Sat, Sun, Mon: 17:40, 21:00.

Tues: 17:40.

Wed, Thurs: 20:00

Walking with Dinosaurs - 87 min (U)
Daily except Wed, Thurs: 10:45, 11:15, 16:45.

Wed: 10:45, 11:15, 16:45, 17:40.
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READY TO LISTEN: Gerald and Julia are veteran volunteers for The Samaritans, pictured with Rebekka Hammersley

would say to encourage people to volunteer for Samaritans they said "The rewards are immense, knowing you can be there for those who are struggling. There is an enormous need to listen to people. The training is second to none, and you'll become part of the most wonderfully supportive group of volunteers you could ever imagine - many say it is like being part of a big family"

Stephen Hoddell, Chair of Samaritans, said: "This time of year can be an incredibly difficult time and we want to let people know that Samaritans is here if things are getting to them. When many other services shut down for the holidays, our

volunteers continue to be available, answering calls round the clock. Thank you to every single person who is spending Christmas volunteering, you are inspirational."

Samaritans is available round the clock, every single day of the year. We provide a safe place for anyone struggling to cope, whoever they are, however they feel, whatever life has done to them. Please call 08457 90 90 90 (UK) 01604 637637 (Local), or email jo@samaritans.org. For more information about Northampton Samaritans, please contact the Fundraising & Publicity Office on 01604 629685 or email publicity@northampton-samaritans.org.uk

FACTBOX

■ Northampton Samaritans answered 38,500 calls for help last year

■ 85 listening volunteers are on duty around the clock

■ The Samaritans are expecting 15,000 calls daily over the festive period



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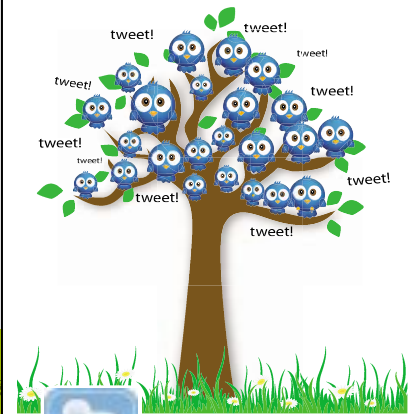
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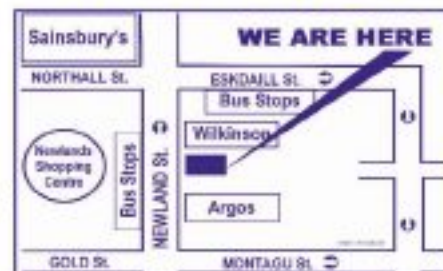
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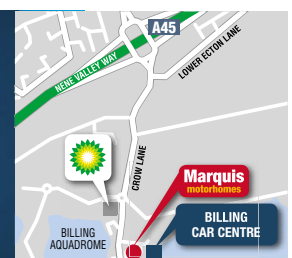
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To be considered for the role you will need to be an experienced mechanic / Engineer having worked with forklift trucks, or have transferable skills in access equipment, heavy plant or agricultural machinery.

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The Site and Facilities Manager role is partially hands-on but also encompasses managing and coordinating a team of permanent and sub-contracted staff covering the main areas of guest facilities, site and circuit maintenance, venue cleaning and security. They also have responsibility for managing a continual programme of improvements to the venue.

Candidates will ideally have a minimum of five years' estate, venue or facilities management experience including strong people management skills and a previous involvement in the events industry would be advantageous. Project budgets and deadlines will need to be set and adhered to. Workload will include planning routine maintenance and improvements, dealing with sub contractors,

utilities and support services. Training or qualifications in Health and Safety, fire safety, fire risk assessments and construction site safety legislation are vital.

Critical qualities are intelligence, commitment, a "can do" attitude, strong organisational skills, meticulous attention to detail to achieve very high standards of venue presentation and an ability to cope under pressure to meet tight deadlines.

Applicants should either have a degree or be qualified by experience and have excellent written English, with good skills in Microsoft Word and Excel. Comprehensive training for the role will be provided. Applicants should note that working on some Saturdays and bank holidays will be necessary.

Interested candidates should apply in writing including CV, salary expectations and notice period to:

Katie Dickens
MotorSport Vision Centre, Brands Hatch,
Fawkham, Longfield, Kent, DA3 8NG

or email: katie.dickens@msv.com

For more information on Bedford Autodrome, please visit: www.motorsportvision.co.uk



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NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS 2012/2013

Notice is hereby given that

- The Council's External Auditor, KPMG, has concluded the audit of accounts of Northampton Borough Council for the financial year ended 31 March 2013.
- The Statement of Accounts for 2012/13 containing the Auditor's opinion is open to inspection by any local government elector for the Council's area on application to the Chief Finance Officer, The Guildhall, St Giles Square, Northampton, NN1 1DE, on any weekday between 9.00 am and 4.30 pm. The document is also accessible on the Council's website www.northampton.gov.uk under the heading "Your council, elections, meetings and members" and then "Council budgets and spending". The Auditor's Annual Governance Report is also available on the website using this same link.
- A local government elector may make copies of or extracts from the statements, or have copies delivered on payment.

G Hammons
Chief Finance Officer

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- NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL**
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ORDER 2010
NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 13
PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990
APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION
- N/2013/1147**
50 Main Road
 Change of use from office (Use Class B1) into tea room (Use Class A3). Within Duston Village Conservation Area.
- N/2013/1153**
31 Green Lane
 Outline application for the construction of detached dwelling (re-submission of N/2013/0749). Impacts on the setting of a Listed Building, Wootton Village Conservation Area and affecting footpath LD13.
- N/2013/1219**
1-3 Abington Street
 Application for a flexible planning permission to change the use of the property from retail to financial and professional services (Use Class A2) or drinking establishment (Use Class A4). Development to include the installation of an extraction system. Grade Two Listed Building within All Saints Conservation Area.
- N/2013/1226**
1-3 Abington Street
 Application for Listed Building Consent for the installation of an extraction system and internal alterations to form restaurant. Grade Two Listed Building within All Saints Conservation Area.
- N/2013/1227**
1-3 Abington Street
 Change of use from retail (Use Class A1) to restaurant (Use Class A3) and installation of extraction system. Grade Two Listed Building within All Saints Conservation Area.
- N/2013/1270**
Former Top of the Town Nightclub 73 - 91 Great Russell Street
 Construction of three storey building to provide offices, 12no. Flats and basement parking. Major Application. Within Boot & Shoe Conservation Area.
- N/2013/1271**
2 Spencer Parade
 Change of use from office (Use Class B1) into a single dwelling (Use Class C3). Grade Two Listed Building within St Giles Conservation Area.
- N/2013/1278**
Land rear of 39 Mill Lane
 Outline application for erection of 3no. dwellings. All matters reserved except access and Layout. Within Kingsthorpe Village Conservation Area.
- N/2013/1290**
5 Holmleigh Close
 Single-storey side extension. Revision of planning permission N/2011/0575. Within Duston Village Conservation Area.

Members of the public may inspect copies of the application, plans and any other documentation submitted at the One Stop Shop, Guildhall, St Giles Square, Northampton, NN1 1DE during all reasonable office hours. Plans can also be viewed on-line at www.northampton.gov.uk, click on 'planning' and then 'planning search facility'. Anyone who wishes to make representations about these applications should write to the Planning Division, Guildhall, St Giles Square, Northampton NN1 1DE or email planning@northampton.gov.uk by 24th January 2014.

Susan Bridge, Head of Planning
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Did you know that forests in Europe, which provide wood for making into paper and many other widely used materials, are 30% larger than in 1950? In fact they're increasing by 1.5 million football pitches every year.*

If you love reading your favourite newspaper, isn't it good to know that it's made from natural and renewable wood.

Two Sides is an industry initiative to promote the responsible use of print and paper as a uniquely powerful and natural communications medium.

*World Forest Resources, 1953 and UN FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment, 2010

To discover some surprising environmental facts about print and paper, visit www.youlovepaper.info



Print and Paper.
 The environmental facts may surprise you



PERSONAL

All adverts must be pre-booked using a credit card or debit card. Advertisers in this classification must provide a verified name and address. We reserve the right to refuse advertisements and undertake to forward information to the relevant authorities upon request.

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 RJ Media PO BOX 4504 M61 OGL Calls recorded & cost 36p per minute-network charges. Over 18s. We may send promo mags. Helpline 0844 946 1304. CILW

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Isabella
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www.isabellannorthampton.com

Personal Services

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